

LIVING WATER

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the Saviour Orthodox Cathedral ❖ July 2019



Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

When we read the Holy Scriptures, we should be attuned to the spiritual themes presented therein. For example, the origin of man, as presented in the Book of Genesis, is a story about each of us. There we learn about God's love for us, and our abandonment of Him. These concepts are not simplistic, but rather possess great depth.

We hear about a garden where God and man converse: Paradise. Beside its streams are the Tree of Life, and the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. According to the interpretation of the Church, the first tree represents communion with God, and eternal life; the second represents man's discernment between right and wrong.

But there are two ways to reach discernment. The first is to trust someone wiser than yourself, and learn what is right through humble obedience. The second is to experiment, and likely fail, and thus learn what is right by contrasting it with the wrong way. St Irenaeus tells us that, had the man and woman trusted in God, He would have given them the fruit of knowing right from wrong when they were ready. In other words, God's prohibition was not a test, but a precaution for their sake.

But the wily serpent, which from tradition we know is the devil, implants doubts in our mind. He says to the woman, "You will not surely die; for God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing

good and evil" (Gen 3:4). He appeals to her pride. But then we are shown her thought process in response: "The woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise" (3:6). First, it appeals to her appetite, second to her mind (through her senses), and third to her pride. So she and Adam take the fruit and eat it, rebelling against God.

As Genesis shows, the human condition is one of constant temptation. We naturally desire good things: sustenance, beauty, wisdom. These are gifts from God. But we often seek these wrongly, chasing after a twisted version of such things. We desire spiritual joy, but settle for physical pleasure. We desire divine beauty, but settle for distorted and sordid images. We desire relationship, but settle for control. Yet it does not have to be this way.

Through Christ, in the life of the Spirit, we are enabled to re-orient ourselves. Prayer, fasting, and charity overcome the threefold temptation of the serpent. And our liturgical and sacramental life brings back into Paradise, where God walks with us again.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Joseph Lucas





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**OFFERING THE LIVING WATER
TO SOUTHEAST FLORIDA**

Visit our website for news, announcements
and changes to our schedule.

www.OrthodoxMiami.org

Announcements

✠ *Camp Saint Christopher*

We will be arranging a car pool for kids to go to Camp St Christopher, leaving after coffee hour on July 7. We will return to the church on July 13, early afternoon. Make sure to bring your kids' bags to church that Sunday.

✠ *Diocese of the South Assembly*

The S. Florida Deanery is hosting the annual diocesan assembly at St James Church (Port St Lucie). Our own Michael Richards will be made a subdeacon at the Liturgy on Wednesday, July 24, at 8:30 AM. Please join us on this momentous occasion.

Clergy

Fr. Joseph Lucas, PhD. Cand., MDiv.
*Rector of the Cathedral
Dean of South Florida*

Attached

Fr. Philip Reese (Rector Emeritus)
Dn. Carlos Miranda

Subdeacons

Randolph (Christopher) LaCroix

Readers

Dionysios Charles Doten
Christopher Herbert
Stephen Butcher
Anthony Brian Allen
Innocent Correa

Retired Attached

Fr. Peter Tutko
Fr. Alexander Padlo
Fr. Michael Zaperyniuk
Fr. Ernesto Rios

Parish Administration

Reader Christopher Herbert - Warden / Secretary
Rdr Dionysios Doten - Treasurer
Leonard Giacone - Asst Treasurer

Parish Council Members

Jim Shiskin
Corina Mavrodin
David Waite
Elena Voronkova
Mary Perkins (Alt)
Gerasimos Evanoff (Alt)

Sisterhood

Corina Mavrodin - Director
Karen Budowski - Asst Director
Angela Allen - Treasurer
Susan Simpkins - Secretary

Choir Director

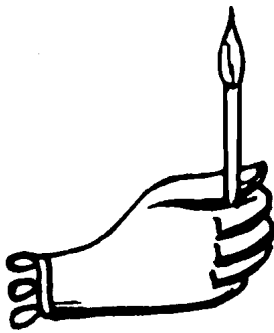
Rdr Dionysios Doten

Orthodox Book Center

Gary George Popovich - Director

Prayer List

Carrie Wusylko / Stanley Prystacky
Enis Jakolenko / Karen Budowski
Ludmilla Voinescu / Svetlana Roadway
Stanley Klein / Vernon Lee
Ann Ross / Norma Skuby / Natasha Campos
Sbdn. Christopher (Randolph) LaCroix
Susan Simpkins / Antonio Nicodemo



Highlights of May Financials

Items should be at 41.6% of budget.

Expenses	Month	Year Total	
Total Exp.	\$16,678	\$76,475	38.6%
Income	Month	Year Total	
Collections	\$10,398	\$49,959	33.9%
Candles	\$705	\$4,063	29.03%
Misc.	\$402	\$1,167	22.8%
Pascha Env.	\$264	\$6,877	76.4%
Hall	\$150	\$1,400	23.3%

Total Inc.	\$11,920	\$63,588	32.1%*

**At month's close, we were 9.5% under-funded.*

July Birthdays

- 2 Haley Budowski
- 2 Liana Filimon
- 2 Juliana Reese
- 4 Joy Richards
- 5 Maria Idriceanu
- 10 Sarah Butcher
- 13 Bianca Keeley
- 19 Willie Bryant
- 19 Eleanor Correa
- 20 Bruce Ross
- 23 Georgette Hartner
- 24 Antonia Cofino
- 24 Eileen Karachin
- 24 Esmeralda Cortes
- 30 Miguel Castro
- 31 Bruce Gerasimos Evanoff

July Anniversaries

- 6 George & Margaret Frisk
- 10 Rdr. Dionysi & Valerie Doten
- 23 Fr. Philip & Mat. Debra Reese
- 24 Ion & Corina Mavrodin

Wish List

*Winn Dixie Gift-cards
for the Needy*

Processional Cross for Altar \$1,000

Candlestick Holders for Altar \$300

Printing Costs for Directory \$500

Two Embroidered Altar Covers \$500 each

Glass for Altar \$300

Holy Water Dispenser \$600